

Public Notice

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Pittsburgh District

In Reply Refer to Notice No. below US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District 1000 Liberty Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186

Application No. 200400511

Date: December 15, 2004

Notice No. 04-58

Closing Date: January 3, 2005

- 1. TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).
- 2. APPLICANT:

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation P.O. Box 429, Route 286 South Indiana, PA 15701

- 3. <u>LOCATION</u>: over Sugar Creek and the Allegheny River, Mile 69.4, in Bradys Bend Township, Armstrong County, and East Brady Borough in Clarion County, Pennsylvania.
- 4. PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The applicant is proposing to replace the East Brady Bridge that carries State Route 68 over the Allegheny River and Sugar Creek. A new continuous composite multi-girder steel bridge having four spans will be constructed approximately 360 feet downstream of the existing bridge over the River. The bridge will be supported by three piers, two of which will be in the River. A prestressed concrete spread box beam bridge will be constructed over Sugar Creek. The proposed construction sequence calls for traffic to be maintained on the existing bridge until the replacement bridge is completed.
- 5. <u>ENCROACHMENT PERMIT</u>: A Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit, Permit No. E03-423, which includes State 401 Water Quality Certification was issued by Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Southwest Regional Office.
- 6. <u>IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES</u>: A Biological Opinion prepared by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service states that with the implementation of conservation measures the project is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the clubshell or the northern riffleshell. Both species are listed under the Endangered Species Act.
- 7. <u>IMPACT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES</u>: The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted, and it has been determined that there are no properties currently listed on the register

which would be directly affected by the proposed work. If we are made aware, as a result of comments received in response to this notice, or by other means, of specific archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical sites or structures which might be affected by the proposed work, the District Engineer will immediately take the appropriate action necessary pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 - Public Law 89-665 as amended (including Public Law 96-515).

- 8. <u>PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT</u>: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in the paragraph below entitled "RESPONSES," that a public hearing be held to consider this application. The requests for public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.
- Interested parties are invited to state any EVALUATION: objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposals must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR Part 230).

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10. <u>RESPONSES</u>: A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest. Written statements concerning the proposed activity should be received in this office on or before the closing date of this Public Notice in order to become a part of the record and to be considered in the final determination. Any objections which are received during this period may be forwarded to the applicant for possible resolution before the determination is made whether to issue or deny the requested DA Permit. All responses to this notice should be directed to the Regulatory Branch, attn Nancy Mullen, at the above address, by telephoning (412) 395-7170, or by e-mail at Nancy.J.Mullen@lrp02.usace.army.mil. Please refer to CELRP-OP-F 200400511 in all responses.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

Michael J. Cummings, Jr. Chief, Regulatory Branch

